

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Original) A fine particle structure comprising a fine particle accumulated layer having fine particles arranged and accumulated, having provided thereon a layer comprising a molecule having a size larger than gaps among the fine particles.
2. (Original) A fine particle structure as claimed in claim 1, wherein the fine particle accumulated layer is a photonic crystal layer comprising the fine particles regularly arranged, having coated thereon a polymer substance having a length or a size larger than the gaps among the fine particles.
3. (Original) A fine particle structure as claimed in claim 2, wherein the fine particles have a uniform size and are regularly arranged to form the photonic crystal layer.
4. (Original) A fine particle structure as claimed in claim 1, wherein the size of the gaps is
[equation 1]

$$2(\sqrt{2} - 1)R$$
wherein R represents a radius of the fine particles.
5. (Original) A fine particle structure as claimed in claim 1, wherein the size of the gaps is 2R, wherein R represents a radius of the fine particles.
6. (Original) A fine particle structure as claimed in claim 2, wherein the polymer substance comprises a chain polymer, a linear polymer or a helix polymer, and the length or the size is a length in a major length direction of the polymer substance.
7. (Original) A fine particle structure as claimed in claim 2, wherein the polymer substance comprises a chain polymer, a linear polymer or a helix polymer, and the length or the size is a length in a minor length direction of the polymer substance.

8. (Original) A fine particle structure as claimed in claim 2, wherein the polymer substance is in a coil form, and the length or the size is a length in a longitudinal direction of the coil.
9. (Original) A fine particle structure as claimed in claim 2, wherein the polymer substance is in a coil form, and the length or the size is a length in a lateral direction of the coil.
10. (Original) A fine particle structure as claimed in claim 2, wherein the polymer substance comprises a network polymer or a gel polymer, and the length or the size is a size of the network in a spreading direction.
11. (Original) A fine particle structure as claimed in claim 2, wherein the polymer substance comprises gelatin.
12. (Original) An optical medium comprising a fine particle structure comprising a fine particle accumulated layer having fine particles arranged and accumulated, having provided thereon a layer comprising a molecule having a size larger than gaps among the fine particles.
13. (Currently Amended) An optical medium as claimed in claim 12, wherein the fine particle structure is a fine particle structure as claimed in one of claims 2 to 11 accumulated layer is a photonic crystal layer comprising the fine particles regularly arranged, having coated thereon a polymer substance having a length or a size larger than the gaps among the fine particles.
14. (Original) An optical medium as claimed in claim 12, wherein the molecular layer is provided as a protective film of a reflective type screen.
15. (Original) An optical medium as claimed in claim 12, wherein the molecular layer is provided between a light diffusing layer and the fine particle accumulated layer as a photonic crystal layer of a reflective type screen, and no air layer intervenes among them.
16. (Original) An optical medium as claimed in claim 12, wherein the optical medium is constituted as a light functional element.

17. (Original) An optical medium as claimed in claim 16, wherein the molecular layer is formed as a protective film.
18. (Original) An optical medium as claimed in claim 16, wherein the molecular layer is formed as a waveguide.